AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1, 3-5, 8, 11-16, 19, 22 and 23 without prejudice, as indicated below.

Please amend Claims 17, 18 and 20 as indicated below.

1-16.   (Cancelled)

17.   (Currently Amended) A method of testing, the method comprising:

coupling a modem in a computer to a portable modem testing device via a first communication link;

coupling the computer to the portable modem testing device via an alternate communication link that bypasses the modem, wherein the first and alternate communication links provide separate paths to the computer;

sending a signal from the portable modem testing device to the computer via the alternate communication link to initiate testing the operation of the modem in the computer;

initiating transmission of test data from the modem;

receiving the transmission from the modem at the portable modem testing device; and

verifying the transmission~~The method of Claim 5~~, wherein verifying the transmission further comprises:

receiving a second transmission of the test data via the alternate communication link; and

comparing the transmission of the test data with the second transmission of the test data.

18.   (Currently Amended) A method of testing, the method comprising:

coupling a modem in a computer to a modem testing device via a first communication link;

coupling the computer to the modem testing device via an alternate communication link that bypasses the modem, wherein the first and alternate communication links provide separate paths to the computer;

sending a signal to the computer via the alternate communication link to initialize the modem in the computer;

transmitting of test data from the modem testing device;

receiving the transmission from the modem testing device at the modem in the computer;

verifying the transmission;

transmitting test data from the modem to the modem testing device; and

verifying the test data~~The method of Claim 8~~, wherein verifying the test data comprises comparing the test data received from the modem with the test data transmitted by the modem testing device.

19.   (Cancelled)

20.   (Currently Amended) A method of testing, the method comprising:

coupling a modem in a computer to a modem testing device via a first communication link;

coupling the computer to the modem testing device via an alternate communication link that bypasses the modem, wherein the first and alternate communication links provide separate paths to the computer;

sending a signal to the computer via the alternate communication link to initialize the modem in the computer;

transmitting of test data from the modem testing device;

receiving the transmission from the modem testing device at the modem in the computer;

verifying the transmission;

transmitting test data from the modem to the modem testing device; and

verifying the test data ~~The method of Claim 8~~, wherein verifying the transmission from the modem testing device comprises comparing the transmitted test data with a known data set.

21.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 20, wherein the known data set is transmitted to the computer via the alternate communication link.

22-23. (Cancelled)

24.   (Previously presented) A method of testing, the method comprising:

coupling a modem in a computer to a portable modem testing device;

coupling the computer to the portable modem testing device via an alternate communication link that bypasses the modem;

sending a signal from the portable modem testing device to the computer via the alternate communication link to initiate testing the operation of the modem in the computer;

initiating transmission of test data from the modem;

receiving the transmission from the modem at the portable modem testing device; and

verifying the transmission, wherein verifying the transmission further comprises:

receiving a second transmission of the test data via the alternate communication link; and

comparing the transmission of the test data with the second transmission of the test data.

25.   (Previously presented) A method of testing, the method comprising:

coupling a modem in a computer to a modem testing device;

coupling the computer to the modem testing device via an alternate communication link that bypasses the modem;

sending a signal to the computer via the alternate communication link to initialize the modem in the computer;

transmitting of test data from the modem testing device;

receiving the transmission from the modem testing device at the modem in the computer;

verifying the transmission;

transmitting test data from the modem to the modem testing device; and

verifying the test data by comparing the test data received from the modem with the test data transmitted by the modem testing device.

26.   (Previously presented) A method of testing, the method comprising:

coupling a modem in a computer to a modem testing device;

coupling the computer to the modem testing device via an alternate communication link that bypasses the modem;

sending a signal to the computer via the alternate communication link to initialize the modem in the computer;

transmitting of test data from the modem testing device;

receiving the transmission from the modem testing device at the modem in the computer;

verifying the transmission by comparing the transmitted test data with a known data set;

transmitting test data from the modem to the modem testing device; and

verifying the test data.

27.   (Previously presented) The method of Claim 26, wherein the known data set is transmitted to the computer via the alternate communication link.